

1874, 5200, dated 30th September 1874, and 5579, dated 21st October 1874.)

3. In Sind the Commissioner in Sind is invested with power to sanction all expenditure on opium dead stock, entry of such in the budget, &c., instead of the Commissioner of Customs. (G. R. No. 5570, dated 21st October 1874.)

4. The Deputy Opium Agent at Indore is authorized to supply on payment indents for opium which may be sent to him by the Commissioner of Excise of the Central Provinces. The opium should be sent free of pass fee. (G. Rs. Nos. 5336, dated 18th September 1875, and 6444, dated 18th November 1875.)

IV.—IMPORT AND TRANSPORT OF OPIUM.

1. Under several Local Rules and Regulations, the import of opium from Málwa for local consumption is permitted under passes granted by Revenue officers.

The Governor General in Council has resolved that no pass shall, in future, be thus granted excepting by the Opium Agent at Indore.

Officers desiring to authorize the import of Málwa opium under sanctioned conditions should, accordingly, address the Opium Agent at Indore, who will issue the required passes under such conditions and with such precautions as he thinks necessary for the safety of the opium revenue which he supervises.

Each Local Government concerned will determine and inform the Opium Agent what officers are authorized to move him to issue passes under these orders. (G. I., F. & C., No. 3689, dated 17th November 1879; *vide* G. R. No. 6465, dated 3rd December 1879.)

2. The following are the officers in this Presidency authorized to move the Opium Agent at Indore to issue passes for opium under the above orders:—

- (1) Agent to the Governor General at Baroda.
- (2) Political Agent, Káthiáwár.
- (3) Political Agent, Cutch.
- (4) Political Agent, Mahi Kántha.
- (5) Political Agent, Rewa Kántha.
- (6) Political Superintendent, Pálanpur.
- (7) Political Agent, Cambay.

(G. R. No. 6666, dated 13th December 1879.)

3. Under Rule 14* of the Rules for regulating the traffic in opium in the Bombay Presidency, published in Government Notification No. 4472A,† dated 3rd June 1885, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, in supersession of Government Notification No. 3884, dated 27th June 1887, to

*For other notifications under this Rule, *vide* Appendix C at page 427 of the Compilation of General Rules.

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appoint the Sábarmati Railway Station to be the station at which opium brought by the Rájputána-Málwa Railway and booked through for stations north and south of Ahmedabad shall be detained and examined. (G. N. No. 6045, dated 8th September 1887.)

4. With reference to Rule 14* of the Rules for regulating the traffic in opium in the Bombay Presidency, published under Government Notification No. 4472A, dated 3rd June 1885, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint the Nándgaon Railway Station in the district of Násik on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to be the station at which opium booked through from Indore for the Aurangábád Opium Warehouse in the territory of His Highness the Nizám shall be detained and examined. (G. N. No. 3243, dated 12th May 1891.)

5. It is unnecessary to examine and weigh at Ahmednagar every consignment or parcel of opium arriving by rail at that place *en route* to the Madras Presidency, but it is desirable such consignments should occasionally be examined and weighed. (G. R. No. 1489, dated 22nd March 1880.)

6. Opium taken by the opium farmer of the Khándesh District to Jalgaon for consumption in Eastern Khándesh should be examined at the Jalgaon Railway Station by a responsible officer of the A'bkári or Land Revenue Department. (G. R. No. 8120, dated 17th November 1890.)

7. Under the provisions of Section 12 (c)† of the rules framed under Sections 5 and 13 of the Opium Act, 1878, and published by Notification No. 4472A at pages 704 to 715 in Part I of the *Bombay Government Gazette* of 1885, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to permit the direct importation of opium from Málwa or Meywár into the district of Súrat for retail sale in the said district by the person duly licensed to retail opium in that district subject to the following conditions:—

(a) All opium so imported shall be subject to the rate of duty imposed, for the time being, on opium imported into the Presidency of Bombay for home consumption, and payment of the duty leviable thereon shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Rule 17 of the rules under the Opium Act, 1878, for the payment of duty on opium intended for exportation by sea.

(b) All opium so imported into the Surat District shall, on arrival, be deposited in the Government Treasury at Surat.

* For other notifications under this Rule, *vide* Appendix C at page 427 of the Compilation of General Rules.

† For other notifications under this Rule *vide* Appendix A at pp. 425-426 of the Compilation of General Rules

(c) Opium deposited as aforesaid will remain there at the risk of the importer, who shall be at liberty to keep it in his own boxes and under his own keys and seals and to remove it to his shops at such times as the Collector of the district may determine and in such quantities at a time as he may require for use, not being less than the minimum quantity to be fixed by the Collector; he shall not be entitled to have access to the place of deposit except during office hours, nor without special permission of the Collector or other officer duly empowered by the Collector to grant such permission.

(d) The quantity of opium to be removed from the place of deposit shall, on each occasion, be presented to the officer in charge of the place for weighment and registration, and shall be covered by a pass in the Form C attached to the rules: (G. N. No. 2533, dated 11th April 1893.)

V.—POSSESSION OF OPIUM.

1. Government do not consider that sufficiently strong grounds have been shown for moving the Government of India to modify the amendment of the Opium Rules reducing the quantity of opium, which may be legally possessed, from ten to two tolas.

It appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council that the difficulties in the way of working the special permit system have been somewhat overestimated. It is not necessary that a fresh permit should be granted every time a man wants to buy opium, nor that the power of granting such permits should be confined to one officer, though care would, of course have to be taken that they were not made use of to cover possession of smuggled opium. It is the desire of Government that everything possible should be done to meet difficulties by the grant of special permits to persons such as sea-faring men and others whose habits or avocations would make it a hardship to enforce the rule strictly. (G. L. to Comr. of C., S., O. & A., No. 286-P, dated 1st August 1893: *vide* also G. L. to G. of I. No. 5859, dated 12th idem).

2. The special permits referred to in Rule 6(b)* of the rules under the Opium Act should be in the annexed form. This form should be printed trilingually—(a) in English and Gujaráti, (b) in English and Maráthi, and (c) in English and Kánarese:—

* Rule 6 (b).—The Collector may grant to any person a special permit authorizing him, for a specified period, to have in his possession for private consumption only a specified quantity of opium in excess of 2 tolas.